NEBRASKA
WEATHER & CROPS

For Week Ending September 17, 2000

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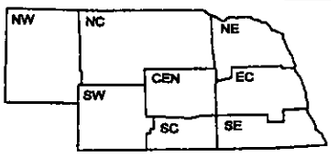

Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
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WEATHER

Last week was dry with temperatures averaging two to five degrees above normal. There was no measurable precipitation.

GENERAL

Above normal temperatures and no rainfall last week allowed crops to dry down and harvest to progress quickly, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Producer activities included moving old crop grain to market, fall wheat seeding, fall harvest, and livestock care.

CROPS

Corn condition rated 17% very poor, 16% poor, 33% fair, 25% good, and 9% excellent. Reports indicated that 80% had matured, well ahead of last year at 37% and the average at 29%. Corn for grain harvest at 18% complete was about three weeks ahead of average.

Soybeans condition rated 27% very poor, 23% poor, 31% fair, 16% good, and 3% excellent. By week's end, 76% of the crop had dropped their leaves, well ahead of the 28% last year and average. Harvest was 9% complete and compares with 1% last year and average.

CROPS Cont.

Sorghum remained in mostly fair condition. The crop was 73% mature by week's end, well ahead of last year at 16% and average at 17%. Harvest made excellent progress last week with 36% combined to date. None had been harvested at this time last year or for the five-year average.

Dry bean harvest was about 50% complete, as of Sunday. **Proso millet** harvest also made good progress with 45% combined to date.

Wheat seeding progressed to 43% planted to date and compares with 42% last year and 41% average. Producer concerns include dryness of the seedbed, depth of planting, and planting dates.

Alfalfa fourth cutting is nearing completion in many areas with about two-thirds harvested overall.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 59% very poor, 29% poor, 11% fair, and 1% good. Producers continued to provide supplemental feed to cattle

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2000	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER-AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
	PERCENT											
% Corn Mature	38	53	78	80	86	80	91	75	80	53	37	29
% Corn Harvested	5	5	13	7	21	10	17	34	18	6	3	2
% Soybeans Turning Color	n/a	100	96	98	100	91	98	94	97	83	75	70
% Soybeans Dropping Leaves	n/a	91	61	73	88	63	83	78	76	41	28	28
%Soybeans Harvested	n/a	2	2	5	10	6	13	13	9	1	1	1
% Sorghum Harvested	n/a	2	10	n/a	8	0	15	44	36	6	0	0
% Wheat Seeded	60	35	24	43	22	28	29	12	43	13	42	41
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2000												
Days Suitable	7.0	7 0	7 0	7.0	7 0	7.0	7.0	7 0	7 0	7 0	6 8	
Topsoil Moisture - Very short	70	64	86	68	59	69	61	84	68	68	9	
- Short	25	31	14	23	39	21	31	16	27	25	33	
- Adequate	5	5	0	9	1	10	8	0	5	7	56	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	
Subsoil Moisture- Very Short	65	71	84	74	76	87	75	92	76	75	8	
- Short	30	29	13	20	23	13	21	8	20	22	28	
- Adequate	5	0	3	6	1	0	4	0	4	3	63	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	

n/a = not available.

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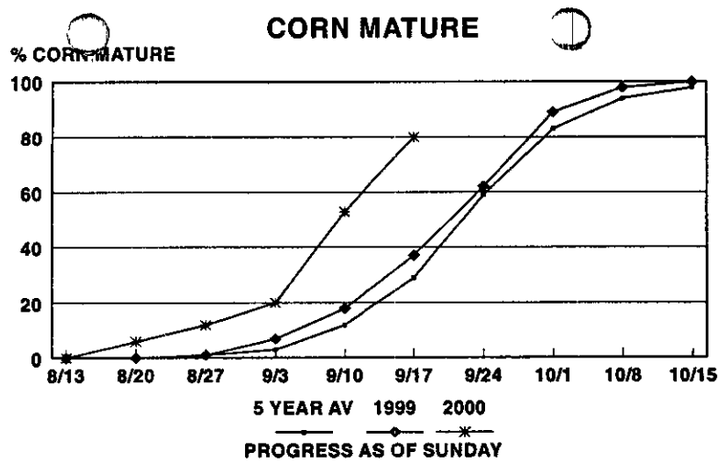
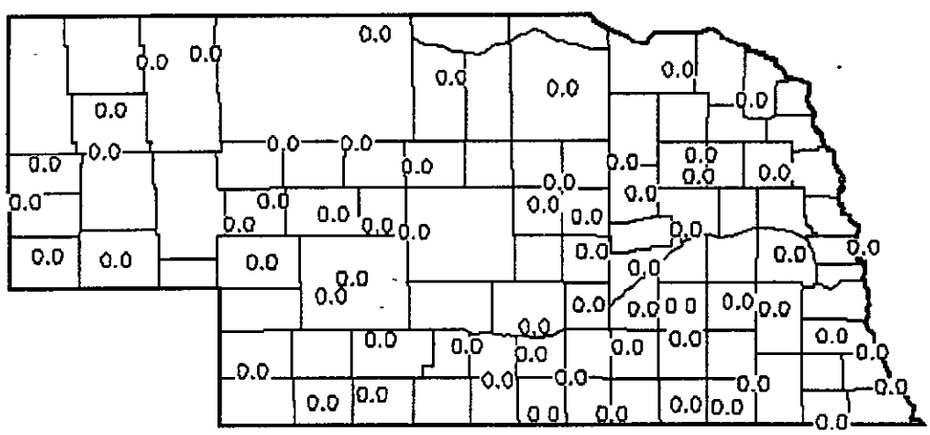


PRECIPITATION IN INCHES FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 17, 2000



Source: High Plains Climate Center

PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - SEPTEMBER 17, 2000

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Total since April 1	11.45	12.65	15.85	15.96	16.61	7.95	14.36	14.89
Normal since April 1	12.63	15.84	17.95	17.48	19.77	14.60	17.58	20.36
Total as % of normal	91%	80%	88%	91%	84%	54%	82%	73%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2000

	Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	97	40	67	---	0	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	94	45	67	+5	0	120	2687	2426
	Sidney	93	45	68	---	0	121	2658	2485
NC	Valentine	98	38	66	+4	0	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	123	2690	2613
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	121	2799	2767
NE	Norfolk	95	38	66	+2	0	---	---	---
	Sioux City	96	37	66	+2	0	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	116	2798	2818
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	126	2857	2828
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	116	2918	2987
CEN	Grand Island	97	42	69	+4	0	114	3043	2867
	Ord	97	41	67	---	0	121	2947	2844
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	126	3011	2838
EC	Lincoln	96	41	69	+3	0	137	3271	3150
	Omaha	93	43	69	+4	0	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	124	3016	2909
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	119	3046	3099
SW	Imperial	97	46	69	---	0	---	---	---
	North Platte	95	41	67	+5	0	119	2909	2695
	Curtis	---	---	---	---	---	126	2996	2734
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	127	3024	2816
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	146	3410	2902
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	128	3216	3150
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	122	3024	2894

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln. N/A = not available.